

to six. The color ranged from black to pale brown to white. Frequently both black and pale bristles were on the same specimen.

STABLE CHARACTERS—Two characters of *sculleni* were more stable than others. All specimens had the knob of the halteres claret red. Usually there was a white, stout bristle on the pronotum opposite the first spiracle on the mesonotum. This bristle was black on a few specimens including the allotype.

SCUTELLAR BRISTLES IN OTHER SPECIES—The number of bristles on the margin of the scutellum has been discussed for *setiger* and *sculleni*. A series of 42 *Coleomyia alticola* James from Taos-Colfax County Line, Highway 64, New Mexico, July 30, 1948, Martins, Coll., had only two bristles on the scutellum of all specimens. In *C. rainieri* W. & M. the number varied from two to six. The maximum number of scutellar bristles on *C. hinei* W. & M. was two, while 14 per cent of 62 specimens had only one bristle. Apparently there is a tendency toward reduction of scutellar bristles in *hinei*. *C. crumborum* Martin shows the opposite tendency; all of the 48 specimens had three to six bristles; none had two.

TWO NEW HIPPOMELAS

(Coleoptera—Buprestidae)

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In the California Academy of Sciences collection there are two *Hippomelas* from islands in the Gulf of California, currently considered as "varieties" of *H. planicosta* (LeConte), which appear to require separation. The two new forms are apparently closely related to each other, but they differ appreciably from *H. planicosta*.

Hippomelas insularis Helfer, new species

Male: elongate oval, shining black with some punctures bluish or brassy, and with a yellowish efflorescence over the surface, more brassy beneath. *Head* brassy, becoming blue at occiput. Front broad, coarsely, closely seto-punctate and with small irregular impunctate areas, the setae silvery and moderately long; antennae 11 segmented, reaching to hind angles of pronotum, inserted in rather small round cavities under sharp, prominent supra-antennal ridges which are set at about 20° angles and which are almost connected across the front by a transverse carina which is separated from

the clypeal margin by coarse punctures; scape of antenna long, second segment less than half as long as third, segments four through eleven expanded, outer eight segments each with a little transverse subterminal pit in which are some antennal pores, and with pores disseminated thickly over the outer portions of both faces, terminal segment with a small quadrate appendix; eyes a little more broadly rounded beneath than above; clypeus shallowly emarginate medially, then broadly rounded at each side, becoming distinctly sinuate laterally; mentum testaceous; mandibles black, coarsely setopunctate basally; submentum black, coarsely setopunctate. *Pronotum* somewhat transverse, shining black with greenish brassy punctures; with a fringe of faintly yellowish hairs along the anterior margin which is feebly bisinuate; side margins sharp and clearly defined near base, fading out at middle and obsolete anteriorly. Viewed from above the pronotum is broadly rounded from the anterior angles to middle, then sinuate to posterior angles which are acutely rounded; disc sparsely coarsely irregularly punctate, more densely near front and at sides, with irregular smooth areas which form no distinct median line; basal margin smooth, entire, raised, distinctly trisinate; pubescence inconspicuous. *Scutellum* transverse, rounded behind. *Elytra* broadest at base, narrowing evenly to posterior third, then more rapidly to apices which are emarginate and bidentate; feebly longitudinally costate, punctures weak, irregular, tending to form lines in feeble but definite striae; side margins feebly serrate near apices. Viewed from the side each elytron exhibits a distinct sublateral costa which persists nearly to the apex; efflorescence conspicuous, especially basally; pubescence inconspicuous. *Prosternum* sparsely setopunctate medially, more densely anteriorly and laterally; prosternal process not impressed medially, trilobate apically, the lateral lobes more narrowly rounded, with a deep submarginal stria which is strongest between the coxae and which fades out before the tip, with a row of long setae arising from the strial punctures; tip of process not touching metasternum. *Mesosternum* divided into halves; meso-metasternal suture distinct. *Metasternum* distinctly medially longitudinally grooved; metacoxal plates distinctly broader internally, cut off externally by a projection of the abdomen; posterior margin not straight. *Legs* coarsely moderately setopunctate and with whitish efflorescence; anterior tibiae distinctly internally subapically multidentate; tarsi slender, not as long as tibiae; claws simple; coxae small, subglobular. *Abdominal sternites* rather sparsely only moderately coarsely setopunctate, with efflorescence at the sides; first and second sternites with their dividing suture distinct for its entire length, the first not impressed medially, the second, third, and fourth with their posterior margins modified laterally into irregular teeth; tip broadly emarginate, with a little rough-margined subapical plate.

Female similar to male excepting the tip of the last sternite broadly rounded, and the anterior tibiae simple.

The holotype male, allotype female, and 39 paratypes all bear the same data: MARCUS ISLAND, GULF OF CALIFORNIA, VI-19-21, E. P. Van Duzee collector (California Academy of Sciences).

Very little variation was noted in the series. The largest female is 22.5 mm. long, 8.5 mm. wide, and the smallest male is 14.5 mm. long, 4.5 mm. wide.

To judge from general appearance this species is closely related to *H. planicosta* but differs from that species in having much less slender and elongate male genitalia, no smooth median line on the pronotum, (common on *H. planicosta*) and the surface of the elytra feebly costate, with more distinct albeit incomplete striae. *H. planicosta* has the elytra more strongly costate and the striae still less developed than *H. insularis*.

Hippomelas insularis castanea Helfer, new species

This form is very similar to the preceding structurally. It differs from typical *H. insularis* in the following respects:

H. INSULARIS	H. INSULARIS CASTANEA
Ground color of elytra black	Ground color of elytra chestnut brown
Transverse carina connecting supra-antennal ridges separated from clypeal margin by a punctate area	Transverse carina connecting supra-antennal ridges connected to clypeal margin by a broad impunctate area
Anterior trochanter with tooth less developed, inconspicuous	Anterior trochanter with tooth more strongly developed, conspicuous
Scutellum a little larger, more transverse, depressed anteriorly to accommodate pronotum in both sexes	Scutellum smaller, male with scutellum transversely depressed anteriorly, female with surface subequal
Male genitalia a little broader at middle, side pieces a little blunter at tips and with no dark pigment at tips	Male genitalia a little narrower at middle, side pieces more acute at tips and with tips distinctly darker

The male holotype, labeled ANGEL DE LA GUARDIA ISD., POND ISLAND BAY, GULF OF CALIF., VI-30-21, E. P. Van Duzee (California Academy of Sciences), measures 16.5 mm. long by 6 mm. wide. The female allotype, a little deeper brown in color, same data but collected July 1, measures 17.5 mm. long by 6.75 mm. wide. The male paratype, same data as holotype measures 15.5 mm. long by 5.75 mm. wide. All three specimens were taken on *Larrea mexicana*. This subspecies is very distinctive in appearance but seems very closely allied to *H. insularis*.

Types, allotypes, and paratypes in collection of California Academy of Sciences.